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17 May 1976

Mr. Ben P. Haynes
Program Chairman
Rotary Club of Houston
1011 Sheraton-Houston Hotel
Houston, Texas 77002

Dear Mr. Haynes:

Thank you for your letter of 21 April and your kind remarks on the favorable impact of my speech on some of your members. I regret the delay in my reply due to my absence from the office the last few weeks.

It would be my pleasure to address the Rotary Club of Houston. However, as I am leaving the Agency and retiring from the Army, you might wish to have someone who would be in active government service at that time. If this is the case, I fully understand. If, however, you do wish me to speak under those conditions, I would be honored to do so. I hope that you will feel quite free to make the decision that seems best to you.

With every good wish,

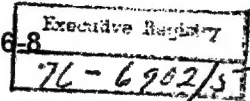
Faithfully,

/s/ Vernon A. Walters

Vernon A. Walters
Lieutenant General, USA
Deputy Director

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April 21, 1976

Lieutenant General Vernon A. Walters
Deputy Director Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, D.C.

Dear General Walters:

A few members of the (downtown) Rotary Club of Houston had the privilege of hearing you address the Rotary Club of River Oaks here in Houston a few weeks ago. All of these men with whom I have talked are most desirous that you repeat this address or one on related matters before our downtown group.

Our Club is composed of more than 850 business, professional, religious and governmental leaders in this dynamic and growing city. It is the largest service club in the world but more importantly, its membership comprises the heart of this community which is growing in national and international importance day by day.

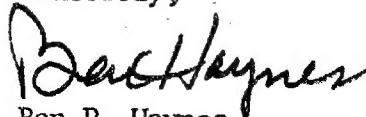
Typical of the speakers we are able to attract to our rostrum are the following who have appeared during the last few months: Leon Jaworski, Special Watergate Prosecutor; Norman Cousins, Editor, Saturday Review; Oral Roberts, President, Oral Roberts University; Sir Peter Ramsbotham, British Ambassador to the United States; Earl Butz, Secretary of Agriculture.

While we would be happy to welcome you at anytime, we are currently beginning to fill up dates for the quarter July through September, 1976, and can offer you your choice of almost any Thursday during that three month period. The Club meets at a major hotel each Thursday at 12:15 P.M. We are well acquainted with the Agency's local personnel (since I retired from that office in 1971 after serving in it since its founding in 1948) and would be happy to work through that office in making detailed arrangements.

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I hope that you will not be concerned about possible over-exposure in the Houston area. I can assure you that there would be practically no overlap in the audiences that you have already spoken to in our community and the membership of our downtown Rotary group. I am looking forward to an early favorable response from you in which you will indicate one or more dates which will be convenient to your busy schedule. I am sure Director George Bush would recommend our rostrum highly for its excellent coverage of influential Houstonians.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Ben P. Haynes". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Ben" being more prominent.

Ben P. Haynes
Program Chairman